

FORGING THE FUTURE:



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Friday FACTS

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"Leadership, Partnership, and Championship"

Reminder: NEHC Command Excellence in Health Promotion Awards Deadline is Approaching!

Just a reminder to any US Navy or Marine Corps commands planning to submit a package for the Year 2003 NEHC Command Excellence in Health Promotion Awards, the award package submissions must be postmarked by 14 November 2003. The criteria for the awards can be downloaded from the NEHC Health Promotion website at <http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/downloads/hp/Cmdaward2003.doc>. Any questions regarding the NEHC awards should be addressed to Sally Vickers at vickerss@nehc.med.navy.mil

43rd NEHC Occupational Health & Preventive Medicine Workshop Update

All individuals working with Navy or Marine Corps Health Promotion programs are encouraged to share what they are doing with others by submitting a poster at the Poster Session for the 43rd NEHC Occupational Health & Preventive Medicine Workshop, scheduled for 18-26 March 2003 at the Chesapeake Conference Center, Chesapeake, VA. Visit the NEHC Workshop website (<http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/Workshop04/home.htm>) to find out more about the workshop registration, courses and sessions, and about submitting a poster for presentation at the workshop.

The workshop "Day at a Glance" agenda should be available on the NEHC Workshop website around 15 December, with online registration available by 7 January 2004.

FIRST JOINT RELEASE FROM CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY TASK FORCES LOOKS AT SKIN CANCER PREVENTION

The first combined publication of clinical and community task forces' recommendations provide a comprehensive perspective on preventive health. The task force offers recommendations for educational and policy approaches in primary schools, as well as recreational and tourism settings, to encourage people to wear hats or other garments to limit sun exposure. Among their findings are conclusions that further research is needed to understand the effectiveness of interventions in settings (areas) such as child care centers and worksites, as well as mass media campaigns. The role that counseling by primary care clinicians plays in changing patient behaviors to reduce skin cancer risk also was reviewed.

This combined publication comes from two leading independent panels: the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, which is supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, which is supported by the CDC. By coordinating the release of their recommendations, the task forces provide a comprehensive perspective of what works in doctors' offices, worksites, schools, and communities to promote health and prevent disease. The research findings are published in the October 17, 2003, issue of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Recommendations and Reports*. For more information on the publication, go to http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_rr.html. To view the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force skin cancer counseling recommendation in its entirety, visit <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/3rduspstf/skacoun/skcarr.htm>.

For additional information on the Task Force on Community Preventive Services or the *Guide to Community Preventive Services*, go to <http://www.thecommunityguide.org>. For information on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's *Guide to Clinical Preventive Services*, go to: <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/cps3dix.htm>.

*"He who has a thousand friends
Has not a friend to spare,
While he who has one enemy
Shall meet him everywhere."*

-Ralph Waldo Emerson